

La Porte Police Patrolmen utilize latest technologies to keep City safe



In the past few years, the La Porte Police Department has acquired various technological devices, but the ones inside of the patrol cars may be the most impressive.

To begin with, each patrol unit is outfitted with a removable laptop computer, which includes remote access to the police department's dispatch and records management system. This system allows officers to write offense reports in the field, instantly search for stolen cars or wanted suspects, or access arrest and offense records of multiple area police agencies. Another speed enhancement is the electronic citation writer used by patrolmen, expediting the citation process via credit-card style magnetic swiping strips containing driver information. Each patrol car is also outfitted with state of the art digital cameras and Global Positioning System (GPS) capabilities, which automatically track and record the location and activity of all in-service patrol vehicles in real-time, helping dispatchers send the closest unit to incoming calls as well as ensure the safety of officers while they are in the field.

Several patrol vehicles are also outfitted with License Plate Reader (LPR) roof-top camera devices that search for stolen vehicles as the officer goes about their daily patrol duties, and alerting them of motor vehicle operators who may have outstanding warrants, or are registered sex offenders frequenting prohibited areas. Three patrol cars have forward-looking infrared (FLIR) thermal imagers that allow officers to see suspects in darkness, smoke, fog, and foliage.

For questions regarding police department equipment or enforcement procedures, please contact the La Porte Police Department's Patrol Division at (281) 842-3185